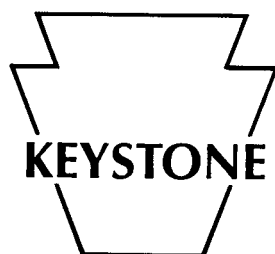




**NASS**

USDA in cooperation with the PA Department of Agriculture ----- providing timely, accurate, and useful statistics in service to U.S. agriculture



# Ag Digest

Released: Early January 2005

Bi-Monthly

Vol. 05 No. 01

## IN THIS ISSUE

Hog and Pig Inventory  
 Cold Storage  
 Agricultural Prices  
 Poultry  
 Livestock Slaughter

The Keystone Ag Digest may be found on the Internet at the following address: [www.nass.usda.gov/pa/agdigest.htm](http://www.nass.usda.gov/pa/agdigest.htm)

## HOG & PIG INVENTORY

There were 1,080,000 hogs and pigs on **Pennsylvania** farms on December 1, 2004. This estimated inventory was up 20,000 head from September 2004, but down 30,000 head from December of last year.

Market hog inventory, at 965,000 head, increased 10,000 head since September 2004, but was down 25,000 head from December 2003. Breeding herd inventory, at 115,000 head, was up 10,000 head from September 2004, but was down 5,000 head from December 2003. The September-November 2004 pig crop totaled 466,000 head, an increase of 43,000 head from June-August 2004 pig crop, but down 19,000 head from the September-November pig crop of a year ago. There were 49,000 sows farrowed during the September-November period, down 2,000 head from the same period a year ago and up 3,000 sows from the 46,000 farrowed during the June-August quarter. The average litter rate was 9.50 pigs per litter which is an increase

of 0.30 pigs per litter from September 2004 and is unchanged December 2003.

**Pennsylvania** hog farmers intend to have 51,000 sows farrow during the December 2004-February 2005 period, down 2,000 head from a year earlier. Farrowing intentions for the March-May 2005 quarter are estimated at 53,000 head, 3,000 head more than actually farrowed in the in same quarter of 2004.

**U.S. inventory** of all hogs and pigs on December 1, 2004, was 60.5 million head. This was up slightly from December 1, 2003, but down 1 percent from September 1, 2004. **Breeding inventory**, at 5.97 million head, was down 1 percent from December 1, 2003, but up slightly from last quarter. **Market hog inventory**, at 54.5 million head, was up slightly from last year, but 2 percent below last quarter.

**The September - November 2004 U.S. pig crop**, at 25.6 million head, was up slightly from 2003, and up 2 percent from 2002. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 2.85 million head, down slightly from last year. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 48 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs saved per litter was 8.96 for the September - November period, compared to 8.93 last year. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.50 for operations with 1-99 hogs to 9.10 for operations with more than 5,000 hogs and pigs.

**U.S. hog producers** intend to have 2.86 million sows farrow during the December 2004 -February 2005 quarter, 1 percent above the actual farrowings during the same period in 2004, and 3 percent above 2003. Intended farrowings for March - May 2005, at 2.87 million sows, are down slightly from the same period in 2004, and down 1 percent from the same period in 2003.

## HOGS & PIGS: NUMBER ON FARMS, DECEMBER 1, SOWS FARROWING & PIG CROP, 2003-2004

Item	Pennsylvania			United States		
	2003	2004	2004/03	2003	2004	2004/03
	(000) Head		Percent	(000) Head		Percent
Inventory - December 1:						
All Hogs & Pigs .....	1,110	1,080	97	60,444	60,501	100
Kept For Breeding .....	120	115	96	6,009	5,969	99
Market .....	990	965	97	54,434	54,531	100
Market Hogs & Pigs By Weight Groups:						
Under 60 Pounds .....	350	280	80	19,778	19,636	99
60-119 Pounds .....	235	275	117	13,238	13,439	102
120-179 Pounds .....	195	225	115	11,109	11,286	102
180 Pounds and Over .....	210	185	88	10,311	10,171	99
Sows Farrowing:						
December <sup>1</sup> - February .....	49	53	108	2,769	2,836	102
March-May .....	49	50	102	2,886	2,870	99
June-August .....	51	46	90	2,918	2,888	99
September-November .....	51	49	96	2,856	2,852	100
Pig Crop:						
December <sup>1</sup> - February .....	456	451	99	24,400	25,105	103
March-May .....	456	438	96	25,629	25,633	100
June-August .....	479	423	88	25,974	26,010	100
September-November .....	485	466	96	25,488	25,558	100
	Number			Number		
Pigs Per Litter:						
December <sup>1</sup> - February .....	9.30	8.50	91	8.81	8.85	100
March-May .....	9.30	8.75	94	8.88	8.93	101
June-August .....	9.40	9.20	98	8.90	9.01	101
September-November .....	9.50	9.50	100	8.93	8.96	100

<sup>1</sup> December preceding year.

# PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS, SELECTED COMMODITIES, DECEMBER 2004

Commodity	Unit	Pennsylvania			United States		
		Dec 2003	Nov 2004	Dec 2004 <sup>1</sup>	Dec 2003	Nov 2004	Dec 2004 <sup>1</sup>
<i>Dollars</i>							
Corn .....	Bu.	2.76	2.26	2.07	2.31	2.05	1.99
Wheat, Winter <sup>2</sup> .....	Bu.	-	-	-	3.62	3.39	3.29
Oats .....	Bu.	<sup>5</sup>	1.67	1.69	1.58	1.49	1.42
Barley <sup>2</sup> .....	Bu.	-	-	-	2.93	2.51	2.46
Hay, Dry All .....	Ton	141.00	132.00	126.00	80.60	86.20	84.30
Dry Alfalfa .....	Ton	156.00	145.00	141.00	87.00	94.00	92.40
Dry Other .....	Ton	129.00	117.00	114.00	66.50	67.80	67.10
Apples, Fresh Use .....	Lb.	.202	.250	.223	.279	.239	.223
Potatoes .....	Cwt.	7.45	7.20	7.50	5.77	5.04	5.10
Cows, Slaughter .....	Cwt.	46.90	47.30	47.10	49.20	48.90	48.70
Steers & Heifers .....	Cwt.	92.00	78.70	80.60	95.60	90.20	91.90
Calves .....	Cwt.	120.00	110.00	109.00	112.00	124.00	121.00
Barrows & Gilts .....	Cwt.	35.90	51.80	52.90	34.60	56.10	54.90
Sows .....	Cwt.	28.50	43.30	43.40	28.10	45.70	46.00
Eggs <sup>3</sup> .....	Doz.	.750	.460	.550	.739	.436	.488
Milk, Fluid Grade .....	Cwt.	15.90	17.70	-	13.80	16.10	16.50
Manufactured Grade ...	Cwt.	13.20	16.30	-	12.70	15.60	15.90
All .....	Cwt.	15.90	17.70	18.30	13.80	16.10	16.50
Milk Cows <sup>4</sup> .....	Head	-	-	-	-	-	-

<sup>1</sup> Preliminary. <sup>2</sup> Pennsylvania price not published on monthly basis, average price is published annually. <sup>3</sup> Market (table) eggs, including eggs sold retail by the producer. <sup>4</sup> Quarterly (Jan., Apr., July, Oct.). <sup>5</sup> Insufficient sales to establish a price.

## DECEMBER FARM PRICES RECEIVED INDEX DOWN 3 POINTS FROM LAST MONTH

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in December, at 112, based on 1990-92=100, is 3 points below the November index. The Crop Index is down 8 points (7.1 percent) from November while the Livestock Index increased 1 point (0.8 percent). Producers received higher commodity prices for cattle, dairy, eggs, and cauliflower. Lower prices were received for tomatoes, oranges, corn, and cotton. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell, based on the past 3-year average, also affects the overall index. Increased average marketings of dairy, tobacco, and wheat offset decreased marketings of cattle, grapes, and soybeans. The preliminary All Farm Products Index is down 2 points (1.8 percent) from December 2003.

The Food Commodities Index decreased 4 points (3.3 percent) from last month to 118. The index is up 2 points (1.7 percent) from December 2003.

Food Grains: The December index, at 113, is down 0.9 percent from the previous month and 6.6 percent less than December 2003. The all wheat price, at \$3.38 per bushel, is down 8 cents from the November price and 30 cents below last December 2003.

Feed Grains & Hay: The December index is 91, down 1.1 percent from last month and 12 percent below December 2003. The corn price, at \$1.99 per bushel, is down 6 cents from November and 32 cents below last year's December price. The all hay price, at \$84.30 per ton, is down \$1.90 from last month but \$3.90 above December 2003.

Dairy Products: The December index, at 126, is up 2.4 percent from November and up 19 percent from December 2003. The December all milk price of \$16.50 per cwt is up \$0.40 from last month and up \$2.70 from December 2003. The fluid grade milk price is up \$0.40 and the manufactured grade milk price is up \$0.30 from the previous month.

## U.S. PARITY PRICES FOR FARM PRODUCTS <sup>1</sup>

Commodity	Unit	Dec 2003	Nov 2004	Dec 2004
<i>Dollars</i>				
Wheat .....	Bu.	9.88	10.10	10.00
Corn .....	Bu.	6.75	6.77	6.74
Tobacco, PA Seedleaf, Type 41 ..	Lb.	3.45	3.68	3.66
All Milk, Sold to Plants <sup>2</sup>	Cwt.	34.20	35.20	35.00
Wool .....	Lb.	1.58	1.57	1.56
Barley .....	Bu.	6.68	6.71	6.69
Oats .....	Bu.	4.22	3.94	3.93
Potatoes .....	Cwt.	14.10	15.20	15.20
Rye .....	Bu.	5.95	6.30	6.28
Soybeans .....	Bu.	14.80	15.90	15.90
Apples, For Fresh Use <sup>3</sup>	Lb.	.498	.528	.526
Beef Cattle .....	Cwt.	164.00	170.00	170.00
Calves .....	Cwt.	220.00	228.00	228.00
Hogs .....	Cwt.	105.00	105.00	105.00
Lambs .....	Cwt.	189.00	202.00	201.00
Sheep .....	Cwt.	80.70	83.90	83.60
Eggs .....	Doz.	1.62	1.69	1.69
Turkeys, Live .....	Lb.	1.010	1.020	1.020

<sup>1</sup> Parity prices are computed under the provisions of Title III, Subtitle a, Section 301 (a) of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 as amended by the Agricultural Acts of 1948, 1949, and 1956. <sup>2</sup> Seasonally adjusted price as percentage of parity price. <sup>3</sup> Equivalent packinghouse-door returns for CA, NY (apples only). Price at point of first sale for other states.

## **COLD STORAGE HIGHLIGHTS**

### **NOVEMBER 30, 2004**

Apples in cold storage reported by cold storage warehouses for Pennsylvania totaled 6,160,000 bushels on November 30, 2004, compared to 6,542,000 bushels on November 30, 2003. The three varieties with the largest fresh market and processing reported stocks in bushels were: York with 1,824,000; Rome with 1,308,000; and Golden Delicious with 1,201,000 bushels.

Total apple stocks in Pennsylvania totaled 260,000,500 pounds on November 30, 2004, compared to 274,832,000 pounds on November 30, 2003. Pear stocks in cold storage decreased from previous year's stocks of 1,319,000 pounds to 1,170,000 pounds on November 30, 2004.

Nationally, frozen food stocks in refrigerated warehouses on November 30, 2004 were greater than year earlier levels for chicken, beef, eggs, orange juice, and cheese.

Butter stocks were down 45 percent from last month and down 52 percent from a year ago.

Total red meat supplies in freezers were up 1 percent from last month and up 9 percent from last year. Frozen pork supplies were up 1 percent from last month, but down 2 percent from the previous year. Stocks of pork bellies were up 113 percent from last month and up 3 percent from last year.

Total frozen poultry supplies on November 30, 2004 were 17 percent below the previous month, but 15 percent above a year ago. Total stocks of chicken were down 4 percent from the previous month, but up 35 percent from last year. Total pounds of turkey in freezers were down 38 percent from last month and down 16 percent from November 30, 2003.

### **STOCKS IN COLD STORAGE, UNITED STATES**

Commodity	Nov 30, 2003	Oct 31, 2004	Nov 30, 2004
(000) Lbs.			
Butter .....	122,544	107,152	59,363
Cheese, Total Natural ...	695,541	756,171	706,977
Eggs, Frozen .....	14,909	17,877	17,235
Poultry, Total Frozen ...	921,767	1,280,993	1,063,586
Chicken .....	569,268	801,953	768,850
Turkeys .....	350,668	478,217	294,156
Fruits, Frozen .....	1,107,053	1,187,735	1,097,732
Fruit Juices, Frozen ....	1,732,096	1,899,342	1,762,352
Vegetables, Total Frozen	2,395,004	2,573,933	2,405,078
Potatoes, Total Frozen ..	1,232,817	1,275,752	1,221,945
Meats, Total Frozen ....	828,066	892,946	900,016
Beef, Total Frozen ....	373,770	452,589	455,939
Pork, Total Frozen ....	438,940	426,775	431,104

### **PENNSYLVANIA APPLES IN COLD STORAGE, NOVEMBER 2004**

Variety	November 30, 2003					November 30, 2004				
	Fresh Market <sup>1</sup>		Processing		Total	Fresh Market <sup>1</sup>		Processing		Total
	Reg.	C.A.	Reg.	C.A.		Reg.	C.A.	Reg.	C.A.	
	(1,000) Bushels									
York .....	5	15	1,449	461	1,930	7	6	1,182	629	1,824
Stayman .....	40	2	53	13	108	32	1	51	0	84
Rome .....	68	50	562	284	964	60	62	795	391	1,308
Red Delicious .....	259	311	106	99	775	174	273	108	61	616
Golden Delicious	108	127	938	633	1,806	76	138	510	477	1,201
Gala .....	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	19	25	4	2	50
McIntosh .....	27	0	19	0	46	25	0	15	11	51
Fuji .....	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	133	18	35	0	186
Other <sup>2</sup> .....	152	110	575	76	913	142	93	443	162	840
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>659</b>	<b>615</b>	<b>3,702</b>	<b>1,566</b>	<b>6,542</b>	<b>668</b>	<b>616</b>	<b>3,143</b>	<b>1,733</b>	<b>6,160</b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes total quantities on hand; graded and ungraded, packed or loose on the last day of the month specified. <sup>2</sup> Includes miscellaneous varieties and some quantities of above varieties not identified.

### **APPLE & PEAR STOCKS IN COLD STORAGE, PENNSYLVANIA & UNITED STATES, NOVEMBER 30, 2004**

Commodity	All Warehouse Stocks		
	November 30, 2003	October 31, 2004	November 30, 2004
(1,000) Lbs.			
<b>PENNSYLVANIA</b>			
<b>APPLES:</b>			
Regular Storage .....	183,183	186,800	161,300
Controlled Atmosphere .....	91,649	93,200	98,700
<b>Total Apples .....</b>	<b>274,832</b>	<b>280,000</b>	<b>260,000</b>
<b>PEARS:</b>			
Bartletts .....	135	37	0
Other Varieties .....	1,184	889	1,170
<b>Total Pears .....</b>	<b>1,319</b>	<b>926</b>	<b>1,170</b>
<b>UNITED STATES</b>			
<b>APPLES:</b>			
Regular Storage .....	930,976	1,595,369	1,208,382
Controlled Atmosphere .....	3,897,469	4,695,285	4,747,028
<b>Total Apples .....</b>	<b>4,828,445</b>	<b>6,290,654</b>	<b>5,955,410</b>
<b>PEARS:</b>			
Bartletts .....	45,648	53,753	23,506
Other Varieties .....	381,145	421,380	343,681
<b>Total Pears .....</b>	<b>426,793</b>	<b>475,133</b>	<b>367,187</b>

## MONTHLY POULTRY SUMMARY

Item	Unit	Pennsylvania			United States		
		Nov 2003	Oct 2004	Nov 2004	Nov 2003	Oct 2004	Nov 2004
Layers . . . . .	Thous.	23,946	23,835	23,630	338,283	344,072	343,477
Eggs Per 100 Layers . . . .	Number	2,238	2,333	2,306	2,166	2,220	2,170
Eggs Produced . . . . .	Million	536	556	545	7,326	7,639	7,455
Chick Hatch-Egg Type . . .	Thous.	3,873	5,183	5,787	30,241	35,971	38,421
Chick Hatch-Broiler Type	Thous.	11,588	12,877	12,908	707,627	757,530	730,789
Poults Placed . . . . .	Thous.	-	-	-	22,155	20,806	22,232

### EGG PRODUCTION

Egg production in Pennsylvania during November 2004 totaled 545 million, up 2 percent from the 536 million produced the same month last year. There was an average of 23.6 million layers on hand during the month, down 1 percent from November 2003. Average production per 100 layers totaled 2,306 eggs, compared with 2,238 eggs during the previous November.

Egg-type chicks hatched totaled 5.78 million in November, 49 percent more than the 3.87 million one year ago. Cumulative egg-type hatch for 2004 is 56.9 million, up 17 percent from those hatched during the same period last year. There were 12.9 million broiler-type chicks hatched during the month, 11 percent more than November 2003. Cumulative broiler-type hatch for 2004, at 143.7 million chicks, was up 5 percent from the 137.3 million hatched January through November 2003.

**United States** - Egg production in the United States totaled 7.46 billion during November 2004, up 2 percent from last year. November egg-type chicks hatched totaled 38.4 million, up 27 percent from November 2003. Broiler-type hatch, at 731 million chicks, was up 3 percent from November 2003.

The total number of layers during the month averaged 343 million, up 2 percent from the average number of layers during November 2003. November egg production per 100 layers was 2,170 eggs, up slightly from November 2003. A total of 22.2 million turkey poults was placed during the month, up slightly from the same month a year ago.

### COMMERCIAL LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER, NOV 2004

Specie	Unit	Pennsylvania	United States
Red Meat Prod	Mil. Lbs.	92.7	3,771
Cattle . . . . .	Thous. Hd.	65.5	2,541
	Mil. Lbs. Live	77.6	3,229
Calves . . . . .	Thous. Hd.	14.3	68
	Mil. Lbs. Live	5.5	23
Hogs . . . . .	Thous. Hd.	237.9	8,964
	Mil. Lbs. Live	58.8	2,417
Sheep & Lambs	Thous. Hd.	5.1	242
	Mil. Lbs. Live	.5	33

### COMMERCIAL LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER

Commercial red meat production in the state during November 2004 totaled 92.7 million pounds, dressed weight basis, down 4 percent from November 2003. Beef production, at 77.6 million pounds live weight, was down 22 percent from November 2003. Total head slaughtered was 65,500. Live weight averaged 1,184 pounds, a decrease of 92 pounds from last year. Veal production was 5.5 million pounds live weight, 8 percent more than a year ago. Calf slaughter of 14,300 head was down 3 percent; average live weight increased 36 pounds to 386 pounds. Pork production, at 58.8 million pounds live weight, was up 5 percent from November 2003. Total head slaughtered was 237,900, up 8 percent from last year. Average live weight decreased 8 pounds to 247 pounds. Lamb and mutton production was 460,000 pounds live weight, down 33 percent from a year ago. The number slaughtered was 5,100, down 19 percent from November of last year. The average live weight decreased 19 pounds to 90 pounds.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Harrisburg PA 17110-9405  
2301 N Cameron St Room G-19  
Pennsylvania Statistical Office  
National Agricultural Statistics Service

**United States  
Department of Agriculture**

PRST STD  
POSTAGE & FEES PAID  
USDA  
PERMIT NO. G-38